



Serial No. 09/652,878

REMARKS

Preliminary Amendment

A Preliminary Amendment was filed in the above-referenced application on December 4, 2000, but entry of the Preliminary Amendment in the Office file for the above-referenced application has not yet been acknowledged. If, for some reason, the Preliminary Amendment has not yet been entered in the Office file, the undersigned attorney would be happy to have a copy thereof hand delivered to the Examiner.

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Restriction Requirement

Claims 1-39 are currently pending in the application and are subject to a restriction requirement. Specifically, the following inventions have been identified by the Patent Office:

- I. Claims 1-23, drawn to an apparatus for polishing, classified in class 451, subclass 360;
- II. Claims 24-31, drawn to a method for replacing a subpad of an apparatus, classified in class 156, subclass 94; and
- III. Claims 23-39, drawn to a method for securing a subpad support, classified in class 156, subclass 60.

An election is hereby made, without traverse, to prosecute claims 1-23 of group I.

None of claims 1-39 has yet been examined on the merits.

Accordingly, an early action on the merits of claims 1-23 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brick G. Power". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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